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REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON THE FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

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* Documents E/CN.4/1998/L.10 and addenda will contain the chapters of the report relating to the organization of the session and the various items on the agenda. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission, as well as draft resolutions and decisions for action by, and other matters of concern to, the Economic and Social Council, will be contained in documents E/CN.4/1998/L.11 and addenda.

GE.98-12100 (E)

XVIII. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF INTOLERANCE AND OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RELIGION OR BELIEF

1. The Commission considered agenda item 18 concurrently with items 11 and 16 (see chaps. XI and XVI) at its 21st to 24th meetings, from 27 March to 31 March, and at its 39th meeting, on 9 April 1998. 1/

2. For the documents issued under agenda item 18, see annex IV to the present report. For a list of all resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission and Chairman's statements, by agenda item, see annex V to the present report.

3. At the 22nd meeting, on 30 March 1997, the Special Rapporteur on the question of religious intolerance, Mr. Abdelfattah Amor, introduced his report (E/CN.4/1998/6 and Add.1 and 2). At the 24th meeting, on 31 March 1998, the Special Rapporteur made his concluding remarks.

4. In the general debate on agenda item 18, statements 2/ were made by the following members of the Commission: India (22nd), Ireland (21st), Pakistan (24th), Republic of Korea (22nd), Russian Federation (22nd), Sri Lanka (22nd), Sudan (24th), Ukraine (23rd), United States of America (23rd).

5. The Commission heard statements by the observers for: Afghanistan (23rd), Algeria (23rd), Cyprus (24th), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (24th), Lithuania (24th), Norway (24th).

6. The Commission also heard statements by the following non-governmental organizations: African Association of Education for Development (24th), African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters (21st), Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (24th), Aliran Kesedaran Negara-National Consciousness Movement (21st), Association for World Education (21st), Baptist World Alliance (23rd), Christian Solidarity International (21st), Franciscans International (23rd), Fraternité Notre Dame (22nd), General Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists (23rd), International Association for the Defence of Religious Liberty (21st), International Association for Religious Freedom (23rd), International Educational Development, Inc. (21st), International Human Rights Association of American Minorities (joint statement with World Society of Victimology) (24th), International Indian Treaty Council (21st), International Institute for Peace (24th), International Progress Organization (24th), Lutheran World Federation (on behalf of Conference of European Churches, World Alliance of Reformed Churches, World Council of Churches) (21st), North South XXI (23rd), Society for Threatened Peoples (23rd), World Muslim Congress (24th).

7. Statements in exercise of the right of reply or its equivalent were made by the representative of the Sudan (23rd) and by the observer for Viet Nam (23rd).

Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

8. At the 39th meeting, on 9 April 1998, the representative of Ireland introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1998/L.34, sponsored by Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Venezuela. Belarus, Botswana, Ecuador, El Salvador, Hungary, Israel, Malta, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Ukraine and Uruguay subsequently joined the sponsors.

9. In accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications 3/ of the draft resolution.

10. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1998/18.